

Application No. 10/781,428
Amendment Dated August 10, 2005
Reply to Office Action of May 10, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The device for trimming a candlewick of claim 1~~ A device for trimming a candlewick at a predetermined height above a fuel portion of a candle, the device comprising:

first and second elongated gripping arms pivotably coupled to each other at a first end, wherein an opening is formed at the first end between the first and second gripping arms; and

a pair of cutting blades arranged between and transverse to the elongated gripping arms, the cutting blades spaced a distance away from the first end of the first and second gripping arms, the distance being equal to the predetermined height;

wherein when the first end of the first and second gripping arms is set on the fuel portion of the candle such that the candlewick extends through the opening, pivoting the first and second gripping arms causes the cutting blades to trim the candlewick at the predetermined height, and further wherein the first and second gripping arms have a U-shaped cross section and face each other, and at least a first end portion of the first gripping arm is narrower than a first end portion of the second gripping arm such that the first portion of the first gripping arm fits within the first portion of the second gripping arm.

3. (Original) The device for trimming a candlewick of claim 2, wherein the pair of cutting blades are formed on a pair of blade arms that are elongated along the length of the first and second gripping arms.

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4. (Original) The device for trimming a candlewick of claim 3, wherein the pair of blade arms have second ends that are rigidly attached to each other.

5. (Original) The device for trimming a candlewick of claim 4, further comprising a connection member sandwiched between the pair of blade arms.

6. (Original) The device for trimming a candlewick of claim 5, where the connection member is U-shaped and elongated along the length of the first and second blade arms.

7. (Currently Amended) The device for trimming a candlewick of claim 5, further comprising at least one pin extending vertically through and interconnecting the connection member and the first and second blade arms.

8. (Currently Amended) The device for trimming a candlewick of claim 5, further comprising a pin extending laterally through and interconnecting the U-shaped first and second gripping arms, the connection member, and the pair of blade arms.

9. (Original) The device for trimming a candlewick of claim 8, wherein the pin resides in vertical slots formed in each of the first and second gripping arms and in a hole formed laterally through the connection member.

10. (Currently Amended) The device for trimming a candlewick of claim ~~4~~2, wherein the first and second gripping arms are connected at the first end by at least one rivet.

11. (Currently Amended) The device for trimming a candlewick of claim 12, wherein the first and second gripping arms are connected at the first end by at least one pin.

12. (Currently Amended) The device for trimming a candlewick of claim 12, wherein the first and second gripping arms are connected at the first end by at least one bolt.

13. (Original) The device for trimming a candlewick of claim 3, further comprising a pair of wings extending vertically from a first end portion of the blade arms for translating pivoting action from the first and second gripping arms to the pair of cutting blades.

14. (Original) The device for trimming a candlewick of claim 5, further comprising first and second lever bars rotatably attached on opposite sides of the connection member for translating pivoting action from the first and second gripping arms to the pair of cutting blades.

15. (Original) The device for trimming a candlewick of claim 14 wherein the lever bars are rotatably attached to the connection member by an axle.

16. (Original) A device for trimming a candlewick at a predetermined height above a fuel portion of a candle, the device comprising:

first and second elongated gripping arms pivotably coupled to each other at a first end, wherein an opening is formed at the first end between the first and second gripping arms;

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a pair of cutting blades arranged between and transverse to the elongated gripping arms, the cutting blades spaced a distance away from the first end of the first and second gripping arms, the distance being equal to the predetermined height;

wherein the pair of cutting blades are formed on a pair of blade arms that are elongated along the length of the first and second gripping arms; and

a pair of wings extending vertically from a first end portion of the blade arms for translating pivoting action from the first and second gripping arms to the pair of cutting blades;

wherein when the first end of the first and second gripping arms is set on the fuel portion of the candle such that the candlewick extends through the opening, pivoting the first and second gripping arms causes the cutting blades to trim the candlewick at the predetermined height.

17. (Original) A device for trimming a candlewick at a predetermined height above a fuel portion of a candle, the device comprising:

first and second elongated gripping arms pivotably coupled to each other at a first end, wherein an opening is formed at the first end between the first and second gripping arms;

a pair of cutting blades arranged between and transverse to the elongated gripping arms, the cutting blades spaced a distance away from the first end of the first and second gripping arms, the distance being equal to the predetermined height;

wherein the pair of cutting blades are formed on a pair of blade arms that are elongated along the length of the first and second gripping arms;

a connection member sandwiched between the pair of blade arms; and

first and second lever bars rotatably attached on opposite sides of the connection member for translating pivoting action from the first and second gripping arms to the pair of cutting blades;

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wherein when the first end of the first and second gripping arms is set on the fuel portion of the candle such that the candlewick extends through the opening, pivoting the first and second gripping arms causes the cutting blades to trim the candlewick at the predetermined height.